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Attorney Docket No.: 10541-282

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Gregory Roger Hamel

Appln. No.: 10/029,326

Filed: December 21, 2001

For: Digital Music Server And Portable
Player

Attorney Docket No: 10541-282

Examiner: Andrew C.
Flanders

Art Unit: 2644

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**DECLARATION OF GREGORY ROGER HAMEL**

Dear Sir:

Gregory Roger Hamel hereby declares that:

1. I am the inventor of the invention as claimed and described in the above-identified application.

2. I conceived said invention in the United States prior to September 20, 2000 (the priority date of U.S. Publication No. 2005/0141367), and prior to October 20, 2000 (the priority date of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0164973). This is evidenced by the creation date of the attached Invention Disclosure form and the dates (both of which have been redacted) in the "Section 6: DATES" portion of the Invention Disclosure form, as well as the written description in Sections 2, 4 and 5 of the Invention Disclosure form, and the drawings attached there."

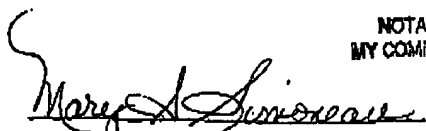
3. That the claimed invention was diligently worked on from a date prior to September 20, 2000 and October 20, 2000 until the filing date of the instant application.

U.S. Serial No.: 10/123,793

4. All statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statement may jeopardize the validity of the above-identified application, and any patent issuing thereon or any patent to which this declaration is direction.

Dated: 9/25/2006
Gregory Roger Hamel

MARY A. SIMONEAU
NOTARY PUBLIC WAYNE CO., MI
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES Oct 20, 2007


Notary9/25/2006

CONFIDENTIAL: Invention Disclosure

<http://www.fgti.ford.com/olid/FGTI/FGTIPrintAll.asp?V200-01>*Ford Motor Company***FGTI**

Online Invention Disclosure

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Online Invention Disclosure: View Invention Disclosure

Inv. Discl. Docket No:	V200-0117
Creation Date:	2/14/2000
Approval to submit was given by:	GHAMEL1: 14-FEB-00

Section 1: INVENTION DESCRIPTION

Title of Invention:	MP3 SERVER/PLAYER
Patent Evaluation Committee:	VI
CPSC Code:	15.00.00
Originating Country Code:	US
Related Disclosure(s):	None

Section 2: PROBLEM & SOLUTION

Description or Comments: Currently the popular MP3 (MPEG 1 Layer III) music compression format is used to store or transfer music files to or from Personal Computers and portable players. This format allows approximately 1 minute of near CD-quality music to be stored or transferred using only 1 MB of data. Current technology involves data transfer from the PC hard drive to portable media or dedicated "MP3" players. The invention provides a novel method of storing the MP3 files external to the PC, yet allowing easy transfer to a vehicle or even as a standalone "boombox" type player. An ethernet network connection allows the invention to function as a Local Area Network (LAN) MP3 server. This allows client PCs to access the MP3 files for playback via the LAN resource. The entire server device is easily removable and transportable to the vehicle environment. The server can be connected to a vehicle sound system using existing electrical interfaces found

automotive sound systems for control and sound signals. Further, the server/player device can be equipped with amplifiers and speakers and function as a "MP3 boombox" completely independent of either the home LAN or the vehicle interior.

Attachment: See Section:9 ATTACHMENTS

Section 3: PRIOR ART

Description or Comments: Cobalt Qube Microserver Whistle Server Whistle Communications Cisco's Micro Webserver are examples of preconfigured LAN servers. Existing CDDJs have a similar form factor and vehicle connectivity. No known dedicated MP3 Server/Player combinations exist to my knowledge.

Attachment: See Section:9 ATTACHMENTS

Section 4: NEW TECHNOLOGY

Description or Comments:

Attachment: See Section:9 ATTACHMENTS

Section 5: DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Description or Comments: The proposed concept is a combination of existing technologies into a unique product. There are 3 different modes of operation: 1. LAN Server mode 2. Vehicle CDDJ Mode (MP3 DJ) 3. Boombox Standalone Mode These configurations are schematically represented in the attached file. The first configuration serves two purposes. One is to allow connection to a host PC to allow MP3 or other digital audio format files to be transferred to the server. The storage medium can be either Hard Disk based or it can use Flash Drive technology. The server exists as an addressable "drive" on the LAN, to which MP3 files can be easily added to using available file browsers. Once the MP3 files are transferred onto the Server, the unit is ready to playback files in any one of the three operational modes. The LAN configuration allows client PCs to access the MP3 files from the server to be played back using existing software player and soundcard technology. The MP3s files can be transmitted using existing Ethernet technology to any location served in the home LAN environment. The second mode of operation involves removing the Server/Player from the home LAN and installing into the vehicle environment. Quick release fasteners and connections to the Radio Head Unit are made to facilitate playback through the vehicle audio system. The Head Unit allows access to MP3 tracks using a

CDDJ control paradigm. Control is applied via a vehicle network similar to CAN or others. Audio signal can be fed to the head unit via analog cabling, or via digital format. The final configuration allows the unit to be used as a standalone "Boombox" unit. External speakers are attached and built-in controls are available to operate MP3, AM/FM or other built in media. Power can be derived from internal storage batteries, external power packs or vehicle 12V systems.

Attachment:

See Section:9 ATTACHMENTS

Section 6: DATES**Record(s) of Completion:** [REDACTED]**Date of Completion:** [REDACTED] **REDACTED****First Production Use:** : tbd**[Model and Date]****Section 7: CATEGORY QUESTIONS****Invention Category:**

Electrical

Category Questions do not exist or not answered.

Section 8: MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**Is it a Government Contract?:**

No

If yes, Government Contract Number:

Identify a government agreement, partnership, consortium, or other company involved with conception or first building of the invention:

If disclosed to non-Company personnel, identify recipient and date:

Larry Shelton

Section 9: ATTACHMENTS

File Name Click on File Name to view and print it.	Description
12047diagrams.zip	Schematic concept diagrams.
12047Detail_Description.zip	Your original attachment file : diagrams.zip was renamed.

Section 10: INVENTORSHIP

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CONFIDENTIAL: Invention Disclosure

<http://www.fgti.ford.com/olld/FGTIFGTIPrintAll.asp?V200-01>**CDS or Other Id:****Last Name:**

GHAMEL1

Hamel

First Name:

Gregory

Middle Name:

Roger

Employment Category:

S

Employment Status:

A

Job Title:

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[This field is blocked out intentionally.]

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Country Code:

MI

Employee of:

Ford Motor Company U

Department:

F717

Organization Code:

IS2025FEG

Payroll Location Code:

1249

Office Address:

DANOU TECHNICAL CENTER, 63J01

Maildrop:

63J01

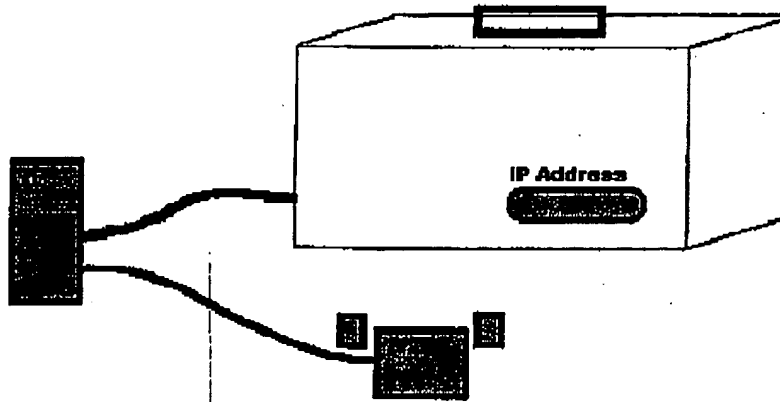
Supervisor's CDS Id:

rsummerv

Manager's CDS Id:

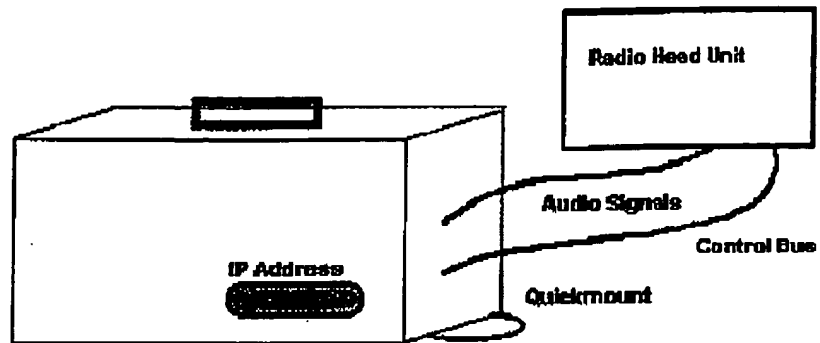
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MP3 Server mode on Home LAN

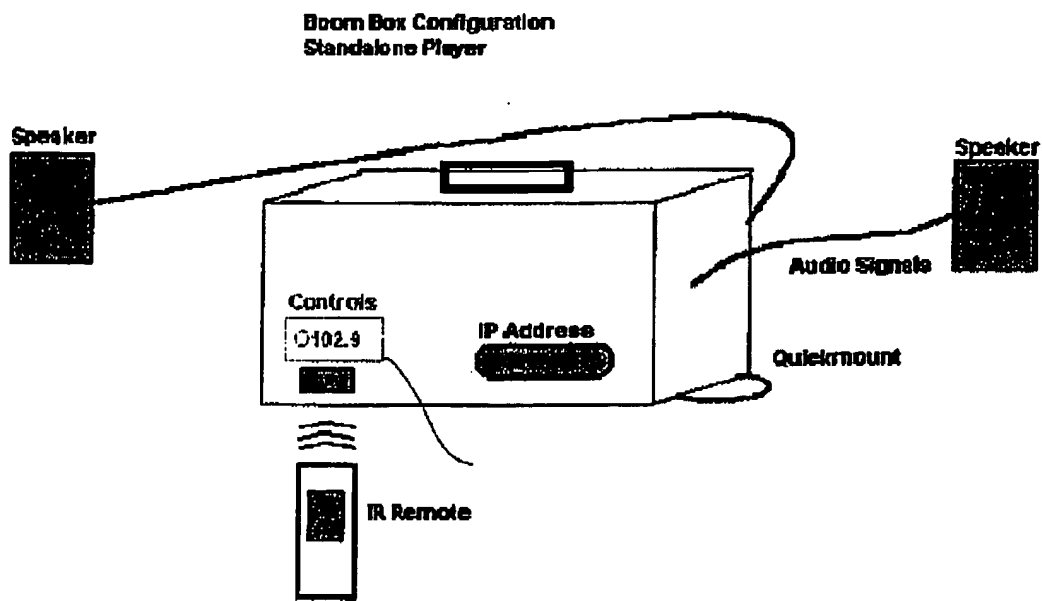


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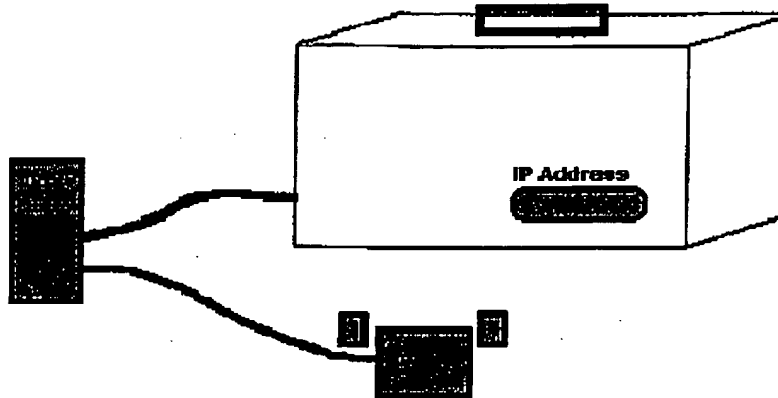
MP3 Server relocated to vehicle operating
in CDDJ mode.



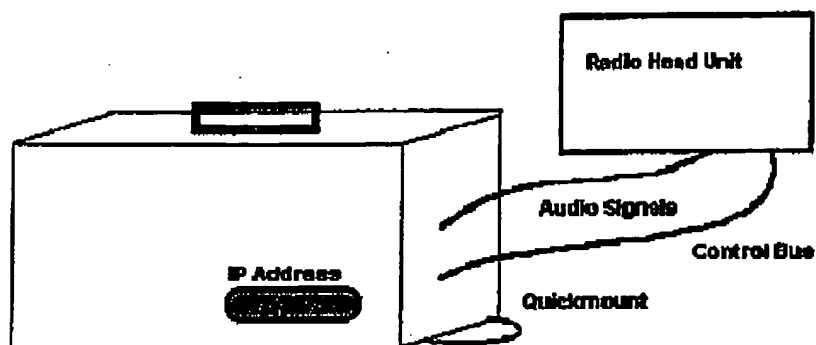
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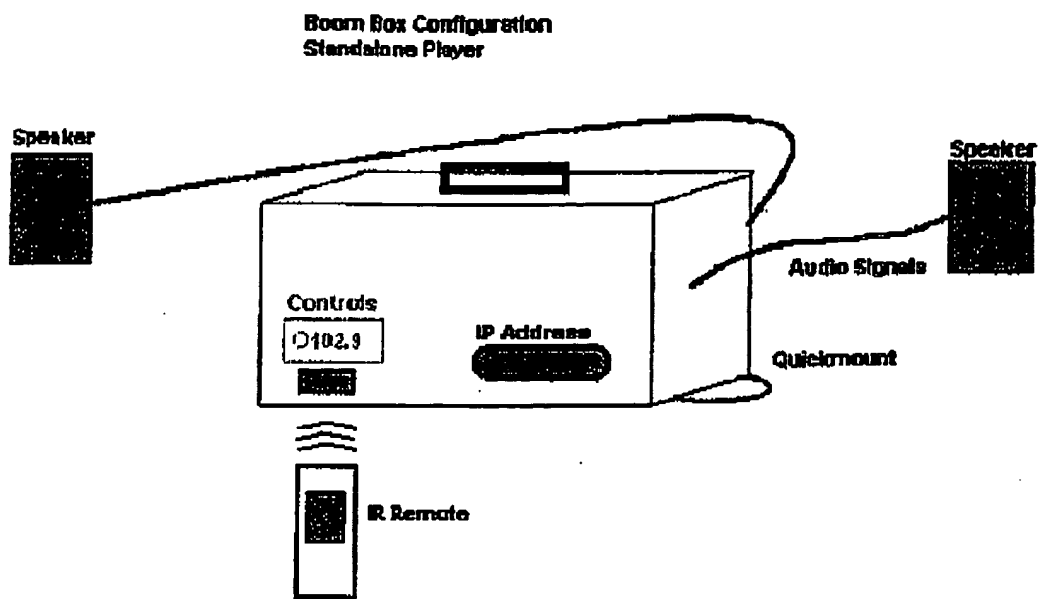
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MP3 Server made on Home LAN**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

MP3 Server relocated to vehicle operating
in CDDJ mode.



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